IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine, comprising:

a wheel mounted to rotate in a casing and carrying blades whose tips are at a small radial distance from an inside surface of the casing, and

means for reducing clearance between the tips of the blades and the inside surface of the casing,

wherein the means for reducing clearance comprise stubs mounted in radially slidable manner to the tips of the blades and guided in an annular groove of the casing.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 1, wherein the stubs are made of a material that is lightweight and withstands wear and high temperatures.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 1, wherein the stubs are made of ceramic.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 1, wherein the stubs include radially outer portions in the form of curved plates for extending along the inside surface of the casing.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 4, wherein the radially outer portions in the form of plates of the stubs include stiffening reinforcements.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 1, wherein each stub includes parallel circumferential ribs forming wipers on its face facing towards the inside face of the casing.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 1, wherein the inside surface of the casing facing the stubs includes a layer of abradable material.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 1, wherein the stubs are fitted onto the tips of the blades.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 1, wherein the stubs are inserted at least in part in bathtubs formed at the tips of the blades.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A gas turbine according to claim 9, wherein the stubs co-operate with ~~the~~ walls of the bathtubs to define cooling air flow passages which are fed by channels that open out into ~~the~~ bottoms of the bathtubs.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 1, further comprising means for holding the stubs axially and radially on the tips of the blades.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 1, wherein, for assembly purposes, the stubs are held on the tips of the blades by adhesive or by a tie surrounding the blades.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 1, wherein the inside surface of the casing facing the stubs is cylindrical, being divergent or of constant section.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A gas turbine according to claim 1, wherein said gas turbine is for an airplane engine.